

**REQUEST
for
CONTINUED EXAMINATION (RCE)
TRANSMITTAL**

*Subsection (b) of 35 U.S.C. § 132, effective on May 29, 2000,
provided for continued examination of a utility or plant application
filed on or after June 8, 1995.*

See the American Inventors Protection Act of 1999 (AIPA).

Application Number	10/774,489
Filing Date	February 10, 2004
First Named Inventor	Hiroshi SOTOZAKI et al.
Group Art Unit	1763
Examiner Name	Sylvia MacArthur
Attorney Docket Number	2004_0208
Confirmation No.	8916

This is a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 of the above-identified application.

NOTE: 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 is effective on May 29, 2000. If the above-identified application was filed prior to May 29, 2000, applicant may wish to consider filing a continued prosecution application (CPA) under 37 C.F.R. § 1.53(d) (PTO/SB/29) instead of a RCE to be eligible for the patent term adjustment provisions of the AIPA. See *Changes to Application Examination and Provisional Application Practice, Final Rule, 65 Fed. Reg. 50092 (Aug. 16, 2000); Interim Rule, 65 Fed. Reg. 14865 (Mar. 20, 2000), 1233 Off. Gaz. Pat. Office 47 (Apr. 11, 2000), which established RCE practice.*

1. Submission required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114

a. [X] Previously submitted:

- i. [X] Please enter and consider the amendment(s)/reply under 37 C.F.R. § 1.116 previously filed on December 27, 2005
- ii. [] Please consider the arguments in the Appeal Brief or Reply Brief previously filed on
- iii. [] Other_

b. [] Enclosed:

- i. [] Amendment/Reply
- ii. [] Affidavit(s)/Declaration(s)
- iii. [] Information Disclosure Statement (IDS)
- iv. [] Other_

2. Miscellaneous

- a. [] Suspension of action on the above-identified application is required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.103(c) for a period of months. (period of suspension shall not exceed 3 months; Fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(i) required).

b. [] Other_

3. Fees (The RCE fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(e) is required by 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 when the RCE is filed.)

- a. [] The Director is hereby authorized to charge the following fees, or credit any overpayments, to Deposit Account No. .

- i. [] RCE fee required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(e)
- ii. [] Extension of time fee (37 C.F.R. § 1.136 and § 1.17)
- iii. [] Other_

- b. [X] Check in the amount of \$790.00 enclosed

4. CORRESPONDENCE ADDRESS

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01 FC:180 January 26, 2006

790.00 OP

THE COMMISSIONER IS AUTHORIZED
TO CHARGE ANY DEFICIENCY IN THE
FEE FOR THIS PATENT APPLICATION
AND TO DISCLOSE